

**Early Listening:**

**Outreach to Agencies and Stakeholders  
Regarding Implementation  
Of the SB 1059 Transmission Corridor Designation Process**

**SB 1059:**  
**Energy Commission Coordination with Cities and Counties**  
**in the**  
**Development of Strategic Transmission Investment Plans**  
**and the**  
**Designation of Transmission Corridor Zones**

1. In developing a strategic transmission plan for the state, or considering an application for designation of a transmission corridor zone, the Energy Commission shall confer with cities and counties, federal agencies, and California tribes to identify appropriate areas within their jurisdictions that may be suitable for a transmission corridor zone. (Section 25333(a) )
2. CEC shall notify all property owners within or adjacent to a proposed transmission corridor zone; the cities; counties; state and federal agencies and California tribes in whose jurisdiction the proposed corridor would be located; and those agencies having an interest in a proposed transmission corridor. The Energy Commission shall also provide these entities with ample opportunity to participate in the Commission's review of a proposed transmission corridor zone. (Section 25334 (a) and (b) )
3. Within 45 days of receipt of the application or motion for designation, the CEC shall commence public informational hearings in the county or counties where the proposed transmission corridor would be located. Purpose of the hearings:
  - a. Provide information about the proposed corridor zone.
  - b. Explain the relationship of the proposed corridor to the CEC strategic plan for the state's electricity transmission grid.
  - c. Receive initial comments about the proposed corridor from public and interested agencies and California tribes.
  - d. Solicit information on reasonable alternatives.(Section 25335)
4. CEC shall solicit information from and confer with cities; counties; state and federal agencies and California tribes regarding their land use plans, existing land uses and other factors with respect to the proposed transmission corridor. (Section 25334 (b) )
5. CEC shall request a response from California tribes; members of the public; any property owner within or adjacent to a proposed corridor; and from affected cities; counties; state and federal agencies; the Electricity Oversight Board; and the California Independent System Operator; with respect to environmental, public health safety, land use, economic and transmission-system impacts or other factors on which they have expertise. (Section 25334 (c) )
6. Upon receiving the CEC request for review of a proposed transmission corridor zone, a city, or county may request a fee to cover actual and added costs of this review and the CEC shall pay this amount to the city or county. (Section 25534 (e)).

7. Within 155 days of the final informational hearing, the CEC shall conduct a prehearing conference to determine the issues to be considered in hearings and set forth filing dates for public comments and testimony from parties and interested agencies. Within 15 days of the prehearing conference the CEC shall issue a hearing order setting forth the issues to be heard, dates of the hearings and filing dates for comments and testimony. (Section 25336 (a) )
8. After conclusion of hearings and no later than 180 days after the dated of certification of the environmental impact report, the CEC shall issue a proposed decision regarding the following matters:
  - a. Conformity of proposed transmission corridor with the strategic plan.
  - b. Suitability of corridor zone with respect to environmental, public health and safety, land use, economic and transmission-system impacts.
  - c. Mitigation measures and alternatives needed to protect the environmental quality, public health and safety, the state's electric transmission grid or any other relevant matter.(Section 25337)
9. After the CEC designates a transmission corridor zone, it shall post a copy on the CEC website and send a copy to each affected city, county, state agency and federal agency and notify property owners within or adjacent to the corridor. (Section 25338)
10. Cities and counties shall consider designated transmission corridor zones when making land use changes that could affect the viability of designated transmission corridor zones. (Section 25340)
11. Cities and counties shall notify the CEC regarding proposed development projects or zoning changes that may impact the viability of designated transmission corridor zones. (Section 25341 (a) )
12. Cities and counties shall consider CEC comments on proposed projects or changes in zoning that may impact the viability of designated transmission corridor zones. (Section 25341 (c) )

## **Draft Timeline Transmission Corridor Zone Designation Process**

- Approval of CEC motion for designation, or filing of an application by a proponent for a transmission corridor zone designation.
- Within 30 days of filing of an application, determine if application is complete.
- Upon determination by the Energy Commission that the application is complete, issue public notice (including applicable property owners, agencies, California tribes, and interested parties) of the “receipt” of the application as complete.
- Within 30 days of the “receipt” of the application as complete, issue public notice requesting comments on the application for consideration in the initial study or EIR process.
- Within 45 days following “receipt” of the application, issue a public notice for and conduct public informational hearings on the transmission corridor zone designation proposal.
- Within 155 days of the last informational hearing, issue a public notice for and conduct a prehearing conference to determine the issues to be addressed in hearings.
- Within 15 days following the prehearing conference, issue a notice of public hearing, and a hearing order.
- Conduct public hearings within or near the project area, including the opportunity for participation by property owners, agencies, California tribes, and interested parties.
- As soon as the draft EIR is completed:
  - ✓ File notice of completion with OPR.
  - ✓ Notify public of availability of draft EIR.
- Initiate a public review period for the draft EIR of at least 30 days (at least 45 days if submitted to State Clearinghouse).
- Prepare the final EIR and proposed decision, including responses to comments.
- Issue public notice of hearing on the final EIR and proposed decision, and the opportunity for public review and comment.
- Certification of final EIR at the Commission hearing prior to consideration of the proposed decision:

- ✓ Final EIR must be in compliance with CEQA.
- ✓ Final EIR must reflect the Commission's independent judgment and analysis.
- ✓ The Energy Commission must consider information in the final EIR when taking action on the proposed decision.
- Conduct Commission hearing to certify the EIR and adopt, modify or deny the proposed decision.
- Within 5 working days after approval or denial of the application, file notice of determination at OPR.
- As soon as practicable following the Commission decision:
  - ✓ Post Commission decision on the CEC website.
  - ✓ Send copy of the Commission decision to affected local, state, and federal agencies.
  - ✓ Issue public notice to property owners and interested parties that the Commission decision posted on the CEC website.